

REMARKS

The basis for the language added to claims 9 and 16 can be found in the original PCT description at page 13, first paragraph. The language added to claims 9 and 16 in the previous response has been deleted. As a result of the deletion of the wording at the end of claim 16, the Examiner's objection under 35 U.S.C. Section 112 in paragraph 1 of the action is now moot. Also, the language deleted from claim 10 in the previous response has been restored.

The feature of estimating a demand for each class "*by computing two demand estimates for two different timescales*" is not disclosed in the cited art. Therefore, claims 9 and 16 are novel.

This feature is not suggested or hinted at in any of the cited references either. Pages 13 and 14 of the description discuss the advantages of this feature, namely that over different timescales (short term and long term), traffic flow has different characteristics. The present invention recognizes this, and makes allowance for it, by providing a tailored, measurement-based, demand estimator.

This is not recognized in any of the earlier cited references. As a result, a more accurate and useful demand estimate is provided, which takes into account short term timescale factors, as well as long term time scale factors. This, in turn, provides a more efficient traffic flow in the resulting system.

Wherefore, an early action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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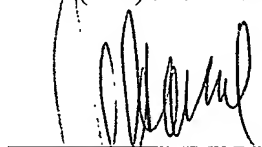
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